

## Louisiana State Civil Service Commissioner



**Lee Griffin**, nominated by Tulane University, is a native of Dallas, Texas, has served on the Commission for six years. He is the former Chairman and CEO of Louisiana Bank One, and is now retired. He graduated from the University of Texas in 1960 with a Bachelor's in Business Administration. He set his eyes and his destination on a graduate assistantship at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, where he earned his Master's Degree in Economics, a topic of discussion he still enjoys today.

Griffin entered the banking industry, where he found his niche. He excelled as a Management Trainer, then in several stepping stone positions at Louisiana National Bank, which became Premier Bank, which was acquired by Bank One in 1996. As Chairman and CEO of Louisiana Bank One, Griffin steered the company into new territories of success from 1996 to 2000 at which time he retired.

In 1993, Griffin, a self-proclaimed "efficiency freak", eagerly took on the challenge of heading up the Select Council on Revenues and Expenditures in Louisiana's Future (SECURE), a group of 30 private industry businessmen, formed by the Louisiana Legislature to study state government processes. After 35 meetings and two years of studying ways to improve Louisiana's financial future, SECURE issued its final report that included 400 ways to improve efficiency in state government. Some 300 of SECURE's recommendations have been implemented, resulting in \$1.2 billion annual savings to the state, according to an audit by a national auditing firm.

"I see no difference in the quality of employees in private industry and in state government," says Griffin, as his position with SECURE afforded him the opportunity to observe state employees performing their jobs.

Griffin has been married to Elizabeth Lobdell Griffin for 42 years. They have three adult children and eight grandchildren. He is enjoying retirement. Griffin and his wife enjoy frequent visits to North Carolina, where they have a home in the mountains.

